Health Care Scheme

3366. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the centrally sponsored Health Care Schemes being operated through NGOs in the country particularly in Delhi, U.P. and Bihar; and

(b) the amount allocated for these schemes during1995-96 and 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Women High Schools and Colleges

3367. DR. AMRIT LAL BHARTI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is no High School and College for women in Allahabad particularly in Chayal Parliamentary Constituency in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the educational development of women of this constituency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

NGOs in Assam

3368. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Non-Government Organisations providing health services in Assam that receive aid from the Union Government; and

(b) the details of the services being provided by those NGOs to the public during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Child Marriage

3369. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether child marriage system is still prevailing in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to take any special measures to check this system; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (c) Child Marriage is prevailing in certain parts of the country. The Government of India has already enacted the Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act, 1978 fixing the minimum age for marriage for boys at 21 years and for girls at 18 years. The administration and implementation of this Act is the responsibility of the State Governments.

Government is implementing the National Plan of Action for the girl child which focusses on survival, protection and development of the girl child. It has stepped up media programmes against child marriages in the country through electronic and print media. Social awareness regarding the ill effects brough about by early marriages and consequent early pregnancy on the health of girl child is being generated under the awareness generation programmes implemented through voluntary agencies and universities. The Central Government has requested the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to consider formulating a specific scheme to raise the status of the girl child, including as one of the objectives, postponement of marriage of girl children beyond the minimum legal age for marriage.

[English]

Non-Utilisation of Funds by NCERT

3370. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the NCERT is not making use their funds for educational purposes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the amount utilised by NCERT during the last three years towards Educational Development Programme?